THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) The information sought by the Hon'ble Member cannot be divulged in public interest.

Uniform land policy for major ports

4910. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal to come out with a uniform land policy for major ports in the country, as reported in the Statesman, dated the 22nd April, 2002.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the major ports in the country are having surplus land etc. and facing financial crunch to meet day-to-day expenses; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to dispose of the surplus lands of the major ports and to make them financially sound?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, there may be some similar features in the land policies of Kolkata and Mumbai Ports.

(c) The development and expansion of ports and port dependent activities in the area of port land is a continuous process. It is difficult to indicate the surplus land in different ports as its utilization is linked with the development in future. Except Kolkata Port Trust, no other port is facing financial crisis to meet day-to-day expenses.

(d) This Ministry asked all major ports to prepare land use plan for efficient utilization of the entire land in their possession, including vacant land, if any.

Administrative reforms of ports in the country

4911. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to introduce administrative reforms of ports in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that working group of Planning Commission has made some recommendations in this regard; and